



1731
Attorney Docket No. 7548

6 A/BM
6/4/02

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant: Duggirala, et al.) **RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**
Serial No: 09/846,635)
Date Filed: May 1, 2001) Examiner: Marc S. Alvo
) Group Art Unit: 1731

For: METHODS TO ENHANCE PULP BLEACHING AND DELIGNIFICATION

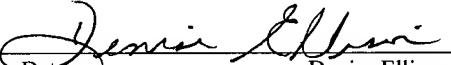
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date below:

3/28/02


Denise Ellison

Date

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of February 26, 2002, Applicants elect the Claims of Group I, namely Claims 1, 3 and 5. Accordingly, Please cancel claims 2, 4 and 6 while reserving the right to assert these cancelled claims in one or more subsequently filed divisional patent applications.

Pursuant to the requirement to "elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits", Applicants elect the species wherein the organic sulfide chelating agent is "polymeric dithiocarbamates". Claims 1, 3 and 5 all read on this single disclosed species.



CONCLUSION

Applicants have herein elected a Group of Claims, and within that group have elected a single species of Organic Sulfide Chelating Agent, for purposes of Examination. Applicants submit the claims are in condition for Allowance and respectfully request that a Notice of Allowance be sent at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Meta Brumm
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